

REMARKS

The Advisory Action mailed August 6, 2008 has been received and carefully reviewed. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) has been filed contemporaneously herewith forcing entry and consideration of the Amendment filed by Applicants on June 4, 2008. This paper supplements the Amendment dated June 4, 2008 and addresses comments made by the Examiner in the Advisory Action.

The Advisory Action asserts that "Brownfield et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. 2006/0090868) substantially disclose the claimed subject matter, a laser-marketable paper product (with absorber materials) which provide markings of high contrast and sharp edges with a laser. The paper is said to exhibit cotton fibers however such a material would be obvious to try (example 8 discloses an organic wood fibre)." Applicants note that Brownfield has not been previously cited, nor has any rejection been made over Brownfield. Thus, any subsequent Office Action based on Brownfield must be made non-final.

Applicants submit that Brownfield does not disclose or suggest each and every feature of the claims, nor does Brownfield in any way cure deficiencies in the already cited prior art.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-13, 15, 20, 23 and 32-34 depend, defines a document of value that includes a security paper having at least one tangible marking in the form of a relief structure. That relief structure is formed from cotton fibers of the security paper, and is produced by a laser.

Claim 14, upon which claims 16-19, 21-22, and 35 depend, defines a security paper for documents of value, that includes at least one tangible marking in the form of a relief structure formed from cotton fibers of the security paper, that is produced by laser.

Claim 24, upon which claims 25-31 and 36 depend, defines a method for producing a tangible marking in a document of value, which includes a security paper characterized in that the security paper is exposed to the radiation of a laser. The inscription parameters of the laser and the composition of the security paper are adjusted to each other in such a way, that the result is the tangible marking in the form of a relief structure that is formed from cotton fibers of the security paper.

The present application highlights the need for security features which are detectable by the sense of touch. Present Specification, paras. 0006-07. Accordingly, the claims are directed to forming a relief structure on a document of value. Brownfield is not directed to a document of value having a relief, but instead, is directed to paper and board products.

The Advisory Action states that Brownfield provides "markings of high contrast and sharp edges with a laser," but does not mention a relief structure. This is because Brownfield discloses a way to mark paper and does not disclose how to form a relief structure as claimed. Brownfield, para. 0004.

The Advisory Action also notes that Brownfield discloses use of wood fibers in Example 8. Brownfield uses wood fibers because paper is made of wood fibers. However, there is no suggestion or motivation in Brownfield to use cotton. More

importantly, Brownfield does not conceive of a relief structure, much less forming a relief structure from cotton fibers of the security paper.


Applicants submit that Brownfield adds nothing to the present case and is irrelevant. As described in the Amendment filed June 4, 2008, the cited art fails to disclose each and every element of the claims. Applicants submit that Brownfield fails to cure the deficiencies in the cited prior art. Thus, claims 1-36 are in condition for allowance.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 4, 2008

By: 

Attorney for the Applicants
Brian A. Tollefson
Reg. No. 46,338
David B. Orange
Reg. No. 55,513
ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK
1425 K Street, N.W.
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 783-6040